From: ErnieWelcker@aol.com@inetgw

To: Microsoft ATR **Date:** 1/22/02 9:08pm

Subject: MICROSOFT SETTLEMENT

January 22, 2002

From: Ernie Welcker California U.S.A.

To: Renata B. Hesse

U.S. Department of Justice

Antitrust Division

As I type and e-mail this correspondence, a great deal of gratitude must be extended to Microsoft in providing the means to do so. Continued efforts by Microsoft makes it possible for me to remain on-line with the latest advancements in software technology at no further cost to me. Heck, I don't even have to stand in line for the ongoing, varied practical gratuities that are always offered at great convenience: and that's my contention in morally supporting Microsoft against any anti-trust action.

The point is, nobody at Microsoft put a gun at my head while purchasing their initial required hardware and software. What really irks me is that enviable competitors have decided to grovel at the feet of powerful brokers to-in effect--put a gun at Microsoft's head to cease and desist in their overwhelming superior productivity. I should add that not all my computer and related wireless products are made by Microsoft. A real monopoly, in other words, cannot exist in the business world; only among government entities (and that is precisely where no competition is allowed for fear of going to jail or worse).

America must remain a land of opportunity, even for those individuals who may eventually trump Microsoft at their own game.... Meanwhile, private property rights must exist for any ambitious enterprise to succeed -- minus any vicious acts of force or fraud.

Hence, I hereby advocate the repeal of all anti-trust laws. Favoring one business over another is not a legitimate function of government in a free world. Don't get me wrong, I have a great deal of respect for the legal profession. A solemn court house is surely preferable over a bloody battlefield to settle any differences objectively.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

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